

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for discussing the advisory action on November 26th particularly with respect to possible further limitations in the claims.

In the advisory action, the Examiner had noted that the claimed invention "does not state that the stripper plate had to be separate from the indexing plate prior to rotation before engaging the molded work pieces". Accordingly, the Applicant has now expressly claimed that the stripper plate is "separate from the indexing plate to remain rotationally fixed during rotation of the indexing plate, the stripper plate".

The Examiner also noted in the advisory action that the stripper plate shown in Fig. 1 of reference Schad, engages the molded "work pieces from a direction perpendicular to the plane of rotation". Applicant intends the plane of rotation to be the plane of the paper in Fig. 1 of Schad and with this understanding, believes that the stripper plate (34) of Schad moves along this plane as can be seen in Fig. 1 (better seen in Figs. 6 and 7) and as is apparent in Fig. 2 which shows the stripper plate (34) surrounding the mold core so as to move with the rotating indexing plate holding the mold core and to move along the mold core within the plane of rotation to eject the part.

The Applicant has amended the claims to better describe the stripper plate of the present invention as "a cradle that grips a side of the molded part", in contrast to Schad's ring which engages an end of the molded part, and that engages the molded part "along an axis of movement perpendicular to a plane of rotation of the indexing plate", in contrast to Schad's engaging movement parallel to the plane of rotation, and then which ejects the part along the plane of rotation like Schad.

The invention of Schad requires that the stripper plate ride along with the index plate and always move within the plane of rotation. This requires that the stripper plate 34 of Schad be pre-engaged with the mold core prior to the molding operation. The laterally engaging stripper plate of the present invention provides a mechanically less complex mechanism that allows greater flexibility in designing molds not taught or suggested by Schad.

It is believed that these claim amendments place claim 1 and those claims dependent on claim 1 in condition for allowance and allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey E. Callen, *et al.*

By: 

Keith M. Baxter
Reg. No. 31,233
Attorney for Applicant
Quarles & Brady LLP
411 E. Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee WI 53202-4497
(414) 277-5719